(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c). Article 348(1) of the Constitution provides that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court shall be in English until Parliament by law otherwise provides. Under Article 348(2), the Governor of a State may with the previous consent of the President, authorise the use of Hindi or any other language used for any official purpose of the State, in proceedings of the High Court having its principal seat in the State, provided that decrees, judgements or orders passed by the High Court shall be in English.

Under section 7 of the Official Language Act, 1963, the use of Hindi or official language of a State in addition to English may be authorised with the consent of the President of India by the Governor of the State for the purpose of judgements etc. made for the High Court for that State. So for, the Governors of the four Northern States namely; Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have authorised the use of Hindi in addition to English Language in the proceedings as well as the judgements, decrees etc. for the High Court of their States.

The Chief Justice of India had reported in October 1991 that replacement of English in lower levels of the judiciary by the State language had already been implemented throughout India.

National Saving Scheme

1931. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Saving Scheme has since been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the balance of deposits under the National Saving Schemes as on March 31, 1996;

(d) whether the Government have received representations for raising the rate of interest paid on the National Saving Schemes deposits and income-tax relief on withdrawals by retired and senior citizens; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). With the withdrawal of tax concession under Section 80 CCA, National Saving Scheme, 1987 was discontinued and a new National Savings Scheme, 1992 was introduced w.e.f. 1.10.1992 under which tax concession under Section 88 and 80L of Income Tax Act, 1961 are available.

(c) The balance deposits under the National Saving Schemes (Provisional) as on March 31,1996 is as follows:

(i) NSS-87	Rs.3998.53 crores
(ii) NSS-92	Rs. 780.95 crores
Total	**Rs.4779.48 crores.**

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Government have examined the representations in detail. However, it has not been found possible to accept them.

Export of Sarees

1932. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to export Banarasi sarees, Bengal tant sarees and South silk sarees to Pakistan, as they are very popular in that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c) Pakistan has not accorded Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to india in contravention of its GATT/ WTO obligations; instead, it currently allows imports from India only against a unilateral list of 573 items. The list does not include "Banarasi Sarees, Bengal tant sarees or South silk sarees". The Government of India have made a formal demarche to the Pakistan Government about extension of MFN status to India, a response to which is awaited.

Assistance from NRF to Gujarat

1933 SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have recieved any proposal from the Government of Gujarat seeking assistance from NRF for restructuring the sick textile mills in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c). State Government of Gujarat have submitted a proposal for assistance of Rs.96.83 crore from National Renewal Fund for restructuring and rehabilitation of Gujarat State Textile Corporation. Ministry of Industry will take up the proposal after operational modalities for grant of assistance from National Renewal Fund have been finalised.